

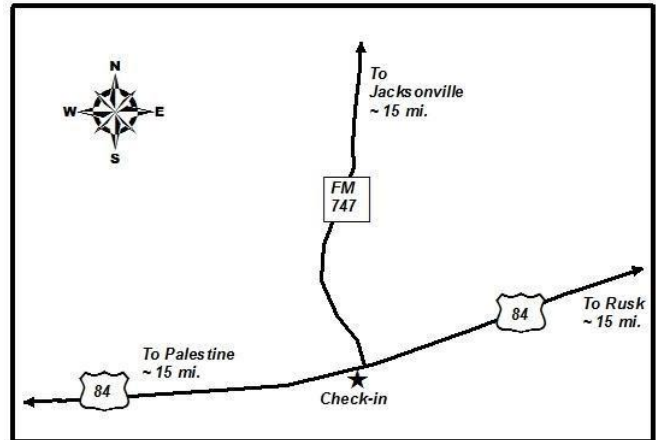


I.D. Fairchild State Forest

Background

The I.D. Fairchild State Forest is located at the intersection of FM 747 and HWY 84 in Cherokee County. The main tract covers approximately 1,969 acres and consists of young to mature pine timber with a variety of hardwood species located along its many creeks and drains. The topography ranges from near flat to excessively steep in some locations. The tract is located approximately 15 miles east of Palestine, 13 miles west of Rusk, and 15 miles south of Jacksonville. The hunter check-in is located at the intersection of HWY 84 and FM 747.

For more information regarding the state forest, call the Jacksonville District Office (903/586-7545).



Reporting/Orientation

When: 10:00 am-- on the first day of the hunt for sign-in and mandatory orientation. **Hunters must contact the TPWD Biologist Reuben Gay at 903.683.2473 as soon as possible if they are unable to attend their accepted hunt or not able to arrive on the first day for orientation.** Standby hunters should report at 10:00 am to complete the application process.

Where: Check Station — the intersection of Hwy 84 and FM 747 on Hwy 84

Preparation: Hunters should bring their valid hunting license, even though it is no longer necessary to use a hunting license tag for a deer taken during a Special Permit drawn hunt. However, a TPWD Legal Deer Tag, issued at the area, must be attached to a harvested deer prior to leaving the hunt area and a valid hunting license is required to use such a tag. Antler Restrictions for Cherokee County will apply to this hunt.

Firearms should be sighted in prior to arriving on the area. All persons afield in the hunt area must visibly wear a minimum of 400 square inches of daylight fluorescent orange material with 144 square inches appearing on both chest and back **and orange headwear** at all times when hunting with firearms on this State Forest. No non-permitted guests allowed, other than a non-hunting adult directly assisting youth.

Check Station Hours:

Opens at 10:00 am on the first day of the hunt and at 6:00 a.m. on the second day of the hunt.
Closed each evening at 8:00 p.m.

Facilities: Refrigeration is NOT available; nearest commercial storage/processing is within 5 miles. Portable restrooms will be on site at the check in location.

Check In/Out: All hunters must check in/out with Area Personnel as explained in the orientation.

Latecomers Check In: Hunters unable to report in time for the 10 a.m. sign-in and orientation must still report to the check station upon arrival to the Area to receive the orientation information. Those arriving after closing of the check station in the evening must report to the check station the following morning for registration and orientation prior to going to the field.

Hunting Conditions

Stands: Stand locations are predetermined with a pop-up tent style blind. Blinds will be assigned to hunter during orientation. There will be NO chair provided, as this will be the responsibility of the hunter.

Firearms: Centerfire rifles are the only legal weapons allowed. Rimfire rifles and buckshot are prohibited.

Vehicles: Transportation to and from the assigned hunting blinds will be provided by Area Personnel. Interior roads are minimal. Be prepared to walk short distances to and from stand if necessary.

Terrain: The area consists of young to mature pine forest with a variety of hardwood species located along its many creeks and drains. The topography ranges from near flat to excessively steep in some locations.

Camping Facilities –

Camping is available only with permission from TFS. To obtain permission, contact the TFS Jacksonville District office at (903) 586-7545 at least 1 week before the date of the hunt. There are no restrooms and no potable water onsite.

NOTE: During the Special Permit Hunt periods, the Area is closed to general public access.

Minor or Underage Hunters:

Persons **UNDER 17 YEARS OF AGE** must be accompanied and supervised by a permitted parent or authorized adult. Hunter Safety Education is required of Texas hunters born on or after September 2, 1971. (See Texas Parks & Wildlife Outdoor Annual for more information.)

Other Information: If you have any further questions, you may call TPWD Wildlife Biologist (903) 683-2473 or the Texas Forest Service, Jacksonville District Office (903) 586-7545

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